Middlebury's Alumni College has grown dramatically since its inception in 1976. We now have, in addition to the Labor Day Weekend Alumni College, several Alumni College Seminars scheduled throughout the year. However, there seems to be a special affection for the fall weekend which helped begin this tradition; and we are especially pleased with the selections offered to you in 1982.

We urge you to mail in your reservation form with full payment early in order to insure a place.

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Announcing the 1982 Middlebury Alumni College

The American Political Process and the Coming of the Civil War

William Catton and John McCardell

A hardy perennial of historical debate is the "repressibility" or "irrepressibility" of the American Civil War. Many historians have contended that a "blundering generation" of political leaders was responsible for the outbreak of war in 1861. According to this analysis, the war was a result of the breakdown of the political process. Students in this course will reconsider this interpretation and have the opportunity, as a culminating project, to re-enact the 1860 Democratic convention, which severed the one remaining political link between North and South. Reserve readings will enable students to prepare for the roles they will play as delegates from various states. Pre-assigned readings, along with lectures and class discussions, will provide the necessary background for the mock convention session.

The Poetry of Robert Frost

Robert Hill and David Price

One of Robert Frost's better known comments upon the gaming in and writing of poetry went: a poem "begins in delight and ends in wisdom." As a craftsman, he kept his house in playful earnest; as literary critic and custodian of his own work, he played for mortal stakes. There are two sides to Frost as poet: one is the familiar picture of the gravel-voiced, white-haired countryman saying poems everyone can hear; the other is a dimmer portrait, but one, nonetheless, focused sharply through many poems — the image of a sophisticated presence deeply aware of his literary past and determined to become America's poet. It is this second, yet not secondary, side we wish to examine. For only then, with some awareness of and comprehension of the many profundities often buried deeply within his poetry, can, indeed, everyone truly understand. For delight to end in wisdom, as Frost knew better, perhaps, than most of us, pain lies between. He is as unsparing of his readers in his pursuit to articulate that truth as we shall try to be of ourselves to grasp it.

Modern Life and Those Who Live It as the Artist's Subject

John Hunisak

This course will focus on the revolution in subject matter which occurred in the visual arts toward the middle of the 19th century, while we compare those transformations with occurrences in both literature and opera. Realism is the key term and conceptual reference point for our investigation. During this period, scenes of modern people engaged in believable, often mundane, activities became the dominant subject matter of art, and inherited conventions of style and representation became inadequate to convey the new meanings inherent in such thematic choices. The paintings, drawings and graphic art of Edouard Manet (1832–1883) will be central to this investigation, as we probe these new subjects, their treatment and probable meaning. We will compare issues raised in two novels by Manet's friend and champion, Emile Zola, and *in verismo* operas by Mascagni and Puccini.

Solar Energy: The Promise and the Dilemma

Richard Wolfson

Solar energy falls on the United States at a rate one thousand times greater than the nation's total energy use. Yet solar energy supplies well under one percent of U.S. energy needs. Why is this abundant source of clean, safe energy so little utilized? Will the future see greater reliance on solar energy? This course will explore current means of harnessing solar energy as well as prospects for a solar future. Practical ideas of interest to the homeowner will be discussed, along with more esoteric and technologically advanced proposals for solar energy utilization. Public policy and economic decisions relevant to solar energy will be considered. Finally, participants will gain first hand experience with solar energy through visits to the College's solar energy research facility and to solar installations in local homes.

Announcing the 1982 Middlebury Alumni College

William Catton

William Catton is Historian-In-Residence at Middlebury and holds an A.B. and M.A. degree from the University of Maryland and a Ph.D. from Northwestern University. Prior to coming to Middlebury in 1968, he taught history at the University of Maryland and Princeton. His publications include *Two Roads to Sumter, American Epoch* and *Bold and Magnificent Dream, America, 1492–1815.*

David Price

David Price received his B.A. from Amherst and his Ph.D. from Princeton. Since joining the Middlebury faculty in 1970, he has regularly taught courses in poetry writing and in the modern British and European novel. His special interests include the study of dreams and nightmares and their relation to literature. He has written and lectured on this subject and on Frost, Conrad, and Joyce. Currently, Professor Price is the Director of the Freshman Writing Program at Middlebury.

John McCardell

John McCardell, Associate Professor of History, has been at Middlebury since 1976. He received his Ph.D. at Harvard. In 1977 his dissertation was awarded the Allan Nevins Prize as the best written dissertation that year. It was subsequently published as *The Idea of a Southern Nation* (W.W. Norton) in 1979. During the academic year 1980–81 he held a research fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and in the Fall 1981 he was Visiting Associate Professor of History at the University of South Carolina. He has contributed articles and reviews to numerous journals, including *The Historian, The Journal of American History,* and *American Literature.* His field of interest is the Old South.

John Hunisak

John Hunisak received his B.A. from Williams College and his Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. He has taught the history of art at Middlebury since the fall of 1970, primarily in the fields of 19th and 20th century painting and sculpture. His articles and reviews have appeared in *Art in America, The Art Quarterly,* and various museum bulletins and catalogues. His most recent publication is entitled "Rodin, Dalou and the Monument to Labor," and appears in the *festschrift* entitled *Art and the Ape of Nature* (Essays in Honor of H.W. Janson).

Robert Hill

Robert Hill, Professor of English, taught three years at Amherst College before coming to Middlebury in 1966. He holds his B.A., M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard. He is past assistant editor for the *Norton Anthology of English Literature* and has published articles on Tennyson and Henry James. His book *Tennyson's Poetry* is a Norton critical selection.

Richard Wolfson

Richard Wolfson has been Assistant Professor of Physics at Middlebury since 1976. He holds a B.A. in Physics and Philosophy from Swarthmore College, and M.S. in Environmental Studies from the Universtiy of Michigan, and a Ph.D. in Physics from Dartmouth. His current research includes theoretical astrophysics and experimental work on solar energy systems. As a teacher he is particularly concerned with making science meaningful to non-scientists. Before coming to Middlebury he worked in health radiation physics at Massachusetts General Hospital and spent several years in secondary school teaching.

MIDDLEBURY ALUMNI COLLEGE VII
SEPTEMBER 1 to 5, 1982
BREAD LOAF

The cost, covering 12 meals, four nights of lodging, class instruction, and books is $225/person or $400/couple, payable upon registration.

Classes will be held at the Bread Loaf Campus where participants will also be housed and meals served.

Opportunities for tennis, swimming, hiking, etc. will be offered at Bread Loaf, and the College Golf Course in Middlebury is also available (reasonable greens fees).

If you wish to attend Middlebury Alumni College VII, please complete the reservation form below and return it with full payment by June 30 to: ALUMNI OFFICE, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE, P.O. BOX 500, MIDDLEBURY VT 05753.

Yes — I am interested in attending Alumni College VII. Please reserve ( ) place(s) for me ( ), my spouse ( ). Enclosed is payment in the amount of $ _____. Make check payable to Middlebury College.

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I ( ), We ( ) am/are interested in the following topic:

☐ THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS AND THE COMING OF THE CIVIL WAR

☐ THE POETRY OF ROBERT FROST

☐ MODERN LIFE AND THOSE WHO LIVE IT AS THE ARTIST'S SUBJECT

☐ SOLAR ENERGY: THE PROMISE AND THE DILEMMA

If my choice is unavailable, I would be interested in _____